

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9711

CONFIDENTIAL USUN NEW YORK 00637

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GY, PDIP, PINT, UNGA

SUBJECT: GUYANA'S NEW FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: GEORGETOWN 0542

1. AS UN PERMREP, RASLEIGH JACKSON HAS WON WIDESPREAD RESPECT FOR HIS INTELLIGENCE AND DEDICATION. HE HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE AND INFLUENTIAL MEMBER OF THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP. HE IS INFORMAL, EASYGOING AND OPEN, WITH A QUICK WIT AND WELL DEVELOPED SENSE OF HUMOR. JACKSON IS WILLING TO GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO OPPOSING POINTS OF VIEW. IN SPITE OF THE OCCASIONALLY ACRIMONIOUS STATE OF OUR RELATIONS DURING RECENT YEARS, JACKSON HAS ALWAYS BEEN QUITE FRIENDLY TO MEMBERS OF THE US MISSION AND HAS ALWAYS HEARD US OUT WITH PATIENCE. WHILE PROBABLY MORE CILIATORY PERSONALLY THAN HIS GOVERNMENT AT TIMES, WE BELIEVE HE ADHERES FAITHFULLY TO HIS GOVERNMENT'S LINE.

2. DURING THE PERIOD OF GUYANA'S TERM ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL (1975-76), JACKSON WAS THE ACKNOWLEDGED LEADER AND SPOKESMAN OF THE NONALIGNED. ALTHOUGH OFTEN LINED UP OPPOSITE US, HE WAS ENERGETIC AND SKILLFUL IN NEGOTIATIONS AND OFTEN WAS THE SOURCE OF COMPROMISE LANGUAGE OR TACTICS

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THAT FACILITATED A SOLUTION. HE IS UNUSUALLY GIFTED AS AN ORATOR, PREFERING TO TALK WITH A TEXT WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

3. IN ONE INSTANCE, HOWEVER, USUN FOUND JACKSON TO REACT IN AN UNWARRANTEDLY SHARP MANNER WHEN WE ASKED ONE OF HIS DEPUTIES TO PROVIDE INFORMATION CONCERNING A JACKSON

ALLEGATION IN A SC MEETING ON THE MIDDLE EAST THAT FDR HAD CONTEMPLATED SENDING GERMAN JEWS TO GUYANA. WE HAD ASKED FOR, AND BEEN FURNISHED WITH, DOCUMENTATION BY THE DEPUTY, WITH WHOM, AS BEFORE, WE CONTINUED CORDIAL RELATIONS. HOWEVER, WHEN OUR REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTATION CAME TO JACKSON'S ATTENTION, HE COMPLAINED IN THE MOST STRIDENT MANNER TO AMB MOYNIHAN THAT OUR REQUEST CONSTITUTED AN ATTACK ON HIS CREDIBILITY AND THE GOOD WORD OF GUYANA. (WE RECOLLECT THAT MOYNIHAN'S COMMENT TO US AFTER JACKSON'S DEMARCHE WAS SUPPORTIVE BUT UNPRINTABLE.)
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Message Attributes

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Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, MINISTER COUNSELORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 feb 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: PDIP, PINT, PINR, PGOV, GY, UNGA, (JACKSON, RASHLEIGH)
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